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(54) **Title:** METHODS AND PREPARATIONS FOR CURING CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention pertains to the use of a blood mannan-binding lectin (MBL) regulator for the manufacture of a life saving drug to treat or cure a critically ill patient. It further involves the use of measurements of MBL to predict mortality in critically ill ICU patients. One further aspect of present invention is to the use of monomers and oligomers of MBL in prophylactic and/or curative treatment of patients admitted to intensive care units (ICUs).

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AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Bureau on 13 APR 2004 (13.04.04) ; original claims 1 – 52, replaced by claims 1 – 21]

1. A use of mannan-binding lectin (MBL) for the manufacture of a life saving medicament to treat or cure critically ill patients.
2. A use of mannan-binding lectin (MBL) for the manufacture of a life saving medicament to treat or cure critically ill patients at risk of death.
3. The use of MBL of claim 1, for the manufacture of a medicament to increase the survival rate in the intense care unit (ICU).
4. The use of MBL of claim 1, for the manufacture of a medicament to reduce the time that a critically ill patient stays, within the hospital, for example within the intense care unit
5. The use of MBL of claim 1, wherein the "condition" is post-surgical critical illness.
6. The use of MBL of claim 1, wherein the "condition" is post-traumatic critical illness.
7. The use of any of the claims 1 to 6, wherein the MBL polypeptide monomer is a mammalian MBL polypeptide monomer.
8. The use of the claims 1 to 6, wherein the mammalian MBL polypeptide monomer is a human MBL polypeptide monomer.
9. The use of the claims 1 to 6, wherein said oligomer is preferably selected from the group of oligomers consisting of trimers, tetramers, pentamers and/or hexamers.
10. The use of the claims 1 to 6, wherein the MBL comprises at least one mannan-binding lectin (MBL) polypeptide monomer, or at least one mannan-binding lectin (MBL) polypeptide oligomer comprising or at least one mannan-binding lectin (MBL) polypeptide monomer.
11. The use of the claims 1 to 6, wherein MBL comprises at least one mannan-binding lectin (MBL) polypeptide oligomer comprising at least one mannan-binding lectin (MBL) polypeptide monomer.
12. The use of the claims 1 to 11, wherein medicament is used in such way that the blood blood MBL level in the critical ill patient is kept above 250 ng/ml
13. The use of the claims 1 to 11, wherein medicament is used in such way that the blood blood MBL level in the critical ill patient is kept above 500 ng/ml
14. The use of the claims 1 to 11, wherein medicament is used in such way that the blood MBL level in the critical ill patient is kept above 1000 ng/ml

15. The use of the claims 1 to 11, wherein medicament is used in such way that the blood MBL level in the critical ill patient is kept between 1000 ng/ml and 2000 ng/ml
16. The use of claims 1 to 15, wherein the medicament is administered to the individual prior to another treatment at ICUs.
17. The use of claims 1 to 15, wherein the medicament is administered to the individual simultaneously, sequentially or separately with another treatment.
18. The use of claim 1 to 15, wherein the medicament is administered to the individual prior to, during and after said other treatment.
19. The use of any of claims 1 to 18, wherein the medicament is a booster of MBL polypeptide serum levels in an critically ill patient having MBL polypeptide serum levels below a predetermined minimum MBL polypeptide serum level.
20. Use of any of the claims 1 to 19, wherein the medicament is for the prevention of fatal outcome during intensive care treatment of an individual.
21. Method of using a MBL polypeptide composition for preventing death in a critical ill individual, the method comprising the steps of:

    i) determining serum levels of MBL polypeptide in an individual,

    ii) estimating the probability of the occurrence of intensive care complications in the individual, and optionally,

    iii) administering a MBL polypeptide composition to an individual.